



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
FIRE DEPARTMENT  
FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION**

## **COMBUSTIBLE FIBER STORAGE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**

Article 1, section 105 of the Los Angeles County Fire Code states... a permit shall be obtained from the Fire Prevention Division prior to engaging in the following... to store or handle combustible fibers in quantities in excess of 100 cubic feet (2.83 m<sup>3</sup>). See Article 28. A permit is not required for exterior storage of hay, straw and similar agricultural products. Additional requirements may be applicable.

**LOOSE STORAGE** Combustible fibers not in suitable bales or packages shall be stored in accordance with the following table:

Amount of Material (cubic feet)	Method of Storage
0-100	Combustible fiber storage bin
More than 100-500	Combustible fiber storage room
More than 500-1,000	Unprotected combustible fiber storage vault
More than 1,000	Protected combustible fiber storage vault

Exception: Amounts exceeding 2,500 cubic feet (70.8m<sup>3</sup>) of loose fibers are allowed to be stored in a detached "loose house" suitably located, with openings properly protected against entrance of sparks. The loose house shall be used for no other purpose.

**BALED STORAGE** A single block or bale shall not contain more than 25,000 cubic feet (708m<sup>3</sup>) of fiber exclusive of aisles or clearances. Blocks or piles of baled fiber shall be separated from adjacent storage by aisles not less than 5 feet (1524mm) wide, or by flash-fire barriers consisting of continuous sheets of noncombustible material extending from floor to a height at least 1 foot (305mm) above the highest point of the piles and projecting at least 1 foot (305mm) beyond the sides of the piles.

**Location** Sisal and other fibers in bales bound with combustible tie ropes, also jute and other fibers liable to swell when wet, shall be stored to allow for expansion in any direction without endangering building walls, floors, ceilings or columns. Not less than 3-foot (914mm) clearance shall be left between walls and sides of piles, except that if storage compartment is not more than 30 feet (9144mm) in width, 18-inch (457mm) clearance at side walls will be sufficient, provided a center aisle of not less than 5 feet (1524mm) is maintained.

**Clearance** A clearance of not less than 3 feet (914mm) shall be maintained between sprinkler heads and the tops of piles.

**STORAGE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS** Hay, straw and other similar agricultural products shall not be stored adjacent to buildings or combustible material unless a cleared horizontal distance equal to the height of the pile is maintained between such storage and combustible material and buildings. Storage shall be limited to stacks of 100 tons (90718.5kg) each. Either an approved one-hour occupancy separation constructed as specified in the Building Code or a clear space of 20 feet (6096mm) shall be maintained between such stacks.

**DUST- COLLECTING SYSTEM** Equipment or machinery within a building, which generates or emits combustible fibers shall be provided with an approved dust-collecting and exhaust system. See Article 76 and the Mechanical Code.

Additional  
Requirements \_\_\_\_\_

3/2003